

Members

Rep. Ryan Dvorak, Chair
Rep. David Wolkins
Rep. Matt Pierce
Rep. Marlin Stutzman
Sen. Beverly Gard
Sen. Lindel Hume
Sen. Marvin Riegsecker
Sen. Karen Tallian
Doug Meyer
Stephen L. Murray
Dave Wyeth
Dwayne Burke
Stacy Herr
John Hardwick
Art Umble
Calvin Davidson
Jon H. Moll
Thomas Easterly



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MEETING MINUTES¹

Meeting Date: September 16, 2008
Meeting Time: 1:30 p.m.
Meeting Place: State House, 200 W. Washington St.,
House Chambers
Meeting City: Indianapolis, Indiana
Meeting Number: 2

Members Present: Rep. Ryan Dvorak, Chair; Rep. David Wolkins; Rep. Matt Pierce; Rep. Marlin Stutzman; Sen. Lindel Hume; Sen. Karen Tallian; Dwayne Burke; Stacy Herr; John Hardwick; Art Umble; Calvin Davidson; Jon H. Moll; Thomas Easterly.

Members Absent: Sen. Beverly Gard; Sen. Marvin Riegsecker; Doug Meyer; Stephen L. Murray; Dave Wyeth.

Call to Order. Rep Dvorak, Chair of the Council, called the meeting to order. He explained that the Legislative Council had directed the Environmental Quality Service Council (EQSC) to study HB1280-2008 (See Exhibit 1). HB1280-2008, which was introduced by Rep Pierce, required the EQSC to study whether public entities should be required or encouraged to seek to achieve energy and environmental design ratings in the construction and renovation of buildings and structures.

Green Building Standards. Subsequent to the introduction of this bill, the Governor issued Executive Order (EO) 08-14, the Energy Efficient State Building Initiative. **David Phippen, from the Governor's Office**, provided the Council with a copy of EO 08-14. (See Exhibit 2.) The EO provides that all new state buildings must be designed, constructed, and maintained to achieve maximum energy efficiency to the extent that the efficiency can be accomplished on a cost-effective basis. The requirement also applies to the repair and renovation of existing buildings.

¹ Exhibits and other materials referenced in these minutes can be inspected and copied in the Legislative Information Center in Room 230 of the State House in Indianapolis, Indiana. Requests for copies may be mailed to the Legislative Information Center, Legislative Services Agency, 200 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204-2789. A fee of \$0.15 per page and mailing costs will be charged for copies. These minutes are also available on the Internet at the General Assembly homepage. The URL address of the General Assembly homepage is <http://www.in.gov/legislative/>. No fee is charged for viewing, downloading, or printing minutes from the Internet.

Mr. Phippen explained that the EO recognizes that since 2005, five new buildings were built to standards certified by the U.S. Green Building Council as meeting Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards. The state also has five other buildings that are built to LEED standards. He also noted that the state has 50 Energy Star buildings.

Bill Brown, Indiana Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and the Indiana Chapter of the U.S. Green Buildings Council, supported the EO. He also supported legislation that would move the state towards more sustainable buildings and communities. (See Exhibit 3 for a copy of Mr. Brown's testimony.)

Fred Gray, Green Way Supply, Inc., described an instance wherein Franklin Township painted a school gym with a paint that made students sick. Schools need to re-negotiate products used. He argued that the public should be given the same consideration given coal companies in terms of support for using safe products.

Andrew Berger, Association of Indiana Counties, supported the Green Initiative and supported mandating local units to construct green buildings for new construction in cases where costs would be recovered in a few years. Taxpayers need firm research of energy costs. He supports the exemption of court houses and historic buildings and noted that the rehabilitation and renovation of some buildings may be difficult if employees need to work at the site that is being renovated. Increased energy costs have encouraged green building projects. Counties have seen savings in energy costs associated with green buildings.

Miriam Dant, Indiana Association of Cities and Towns, described the "Green Communities" Initiative. (See Exhibit 4 for the explanation and purpose of the program. See Exhibit 5 for survey questions pertaining to the initiative.) Ms. Dant encouraged using incentives as opposed to mandates. She explained that incentives did not necessarily need to be monetary but could consist of recognition from IDEM.

Tim Maloney, Hoosier Environmental Council, explained that buildings produce 39% of U.S. CO₂ emissions. Green buildings save on average 25% to 30% in energy costs over non-green buildings. (See Exhibit 6.)

Gretchen White, Indiana Builders Association, explained that in 2005 the National Association of Home Builders partnered with the International Codes Council to create the National Green Building Standard. The standard uses the federally recognized Energy Star program as a benchmark and incorporates environmental considerations as well as resource efficiency through the design, construction, and operation of a home. The standard will offer a cafeteria plan from which builders can choose and requires a third-party verifier. (See Exhibit 7.)

Trevor Vance, American Forestry and Paper Association, discussed forest certification programs. He argued that initiatives should consider total points and not focus solely on plans. All building systems should be included. He would like to see legislation that recommends LEED.

Kate Wright and Anthony Baratta, DePauw University Environmental Policy Project, explained other states' policies pertaining to green building. Among their findings, they noted that 34 states have passed green building legislation; 49 bills and executive orders have been signed since 2003. Of the total, 29 provide mandates, 16 provide incentives, and 5 encourage green building practices. Seventeen affect private construction, and 34 affect public construction. Of the 29 bills and executive orders that mandated sustainable building practices, 28 pertained to public construction; of these, 20 specified state government construction and 4 specified school construction. (See Exhibits 8 and 9.)

Rep Wolkins presented the Council with a handout entitled "Green Schools Don't Make the Grade," which described the push for green schools in the state of Washington. The report suggests that schools built to comply did not experience energy costs that were 30% less than comparable schools that did not comply. (See Exhibits 10 and 11.)

Mr. Brown noted that an NDI study of 1,300 LEED-certified buildings, which included schools, found a 30% savings.

Mark Rossolo, Green Building Initiative, provided the Council with information pertaining to Green Globes. (See Exhibits 12 and 13.)

Indiana Energy Code. *Holly Yensel, Hoosier Energy*, discussed home energy efficiency. He noted that the Indiana energy code had not been updated since 1992. Among other points, Mr. Yensel explained that historically heating and cooling costs accounted for 55% to 60% of residential utility usage. Research indicates that making the building shell more energy efficient saves energy. Energy savings have more than paid for increases in costs to the buildings. (See Exhibit 14.)

Mr. Maloney, Hoosier Environmental Council, encouraged the adoption of the current version of the International Energy Conservation Code with incorporation of updates each time the International Code Council updates the code. (See Exhibit 6.)

Geothermal Systems for Buildings. *Michael Lutz, DePauw University Environmental Policy Project*, provided the Council with an overview of how geothermal systems work, the benefits of geothermal systems, the potential for the systems, barriers to use, the current state of use, and suggestions for what the General Assembly could do to encourage use. (See Exhibit 15.)

Randy Stair and Woody Hogan, Stair Associates Inc., provided the Council with a handout pertaining to the energy savings experienced by South Madison Community School Corporation through the use of a geothermal system. (See Exhibit 16.)

Tony Cooper, Water Furnace International, explained that the geothermal technology was developed around 150 years ago. In 1942, a system was developed for use in the United Kingdom (U.K.) so that coal would not have to be used. The system is a closed system that does not use water. There are a lot of public-funded geothermal systems in Europe. The largest system was built for a hospital in the U.K. Sweden has tried to eliminate any fuel burning. The return on investment for a geothermal system for residences is 2-7 years with an energy savings of 15% to 45%. Geothermal is less than 2% of the energy market. Although the market is growing, change is difficult for many homeowners who stick with the status quo. Education is important. Installation of green technology would create a lot of jobs.

Adjournment. There being no further business to come before the Council, Rep Dvorak adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:55 p.m.